

Remarks/ Arguments

In response to the Office Action mailed June 9, 2004, Applicant respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the objections to the specification and the claims.

Claims 1 – 20 remain.

Claims 6 and 19 are being amended.

Applicant notes with appreciation that Claims 14 – 18 and 20 have been allowed.

Claims 6 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to point out and distinctly claim the subject matter Applicant regards as the invention. Applicants have amended Claims 6 and 19 to correct antecedent basis errors.

Claims 1 – 8, and 11 – 13 stand rejected in view of the prior art. However, Claims 9 and 10 stand – objected to as being based on a rejected base claim, but are otherwise allowable.

In order to advance prosecution of the case, Claims 1 – 5 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claim 6 has been amended to include all the limitations of former dependent Claim 9. Claim 9 has been cancelled. Claim 6, and Claims 7 – 8, and 10 – 13 dependent thereon, should now be allowable.

No new matter has been added; the claims have been merely amended to more particularly claim the subject matter Applicant(s) believe(s) is inventive. Applicant(s) respectfully submit that the Claims as they now stand are patentably distinct over the art cited during the prosecution thereof.

Applicant respectfully requests a First Month Extension of Time to File this Response. Enclosed with this paper is Form PTO/SB/22 with Extension Fees in the amount of \$55.00 as reflected on the PTO/SB/17 Fee Transmittal.

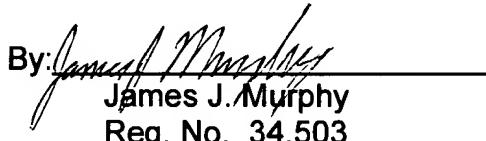
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With the addition of no new claims, no additional filing fees are due. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account Number 20-0821 of Thompson & Knight LLP.

If the Examiner has any questions or comments concerning this paper or the present application in general, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (214) 969 - 1749.

Respectfully submitted,
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